

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Unemployment Rates Increase in All Metro Areas

*First time in six years unemployment rate up in every county*

### Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	April 2016	April 2015	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	5.4%	3.9%	1.5
Carbondale-Marion	6.3%	5.0%	1.3
Champaign-Urbana	5.3%	4.2%	1.1
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	6.3%	5.7%	0.6
Danville	7.5%	6.0%	1.5
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	5.8%	5.0%	0.8
Decatur	7.1%	5.9%	1.2
Elgin	5.8%	4.9%	0.9
Kankakee	6.8%	5.9%	0.9
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	5.4%	4.7%	0.7
Peoria	6.9%	5.3%	1.6
Rockford	6.9%	6.0%	0.9
Springfield	5.1%	4.4%	0.7
St. Louis (IL-Section)	6.1%	5.1%	1.0
Illinois Statewide	6.2%	5.4%	0.8

\* Data subject to revision.

**CHICAGO**—All metropolitan areas in Illinois experienced over-the-year unemployment rate increases for the third consecutive month, according to preliminary data released today by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES).

“Illinois is tied for the highest unemployment rate in the nation, even though in prior months, some areas have experienced relatively low unemployment rates,” said IDES Director Jeff Mays. “This is the first time since January 2010 that every county has had over-the-year increases in their unemployment rate. This is significant in helping to determine true economic conditions across all regions of the state.”

Illinois businesses added jobs in eight metros, in which the largest increases were seen in: Lake-Kenosha (+3.1 percent, +12,200), Rockford (+2.2 percent, +3,300), and Springfield (+1.5, +1,700). Total nonfarm jobs in the Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division increased (+1.5 percent or +55,000). Illinois businesses lost jobs in six metro areas including Bloomington (-2.7 percent, -2,600), Carbondale-Marion (-1.7

percent, -1,000), and the Quad Cities (-1.6 percent, -2,900). The industry sectors recording job growth in the majority of metros were: Education and Health Services (11 of 14), Retail Trade (10 of 14), Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (eight of 14), Leisure and Hospitality (eight of 14), Other Services (eight of 14), and Government (eight of 14).

Not seasonally adjusted data compares April 2016 with April 2015. The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 6.2 percent in April 2016 and stood at 12.2 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.7 percent in April 2016 and 10.6 percent in January 2010 at its peak. The unemployment rate identifies those who are out of work and looking for work, and is not tied to collecting unemployment insurance benefits.

### Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – April 2016

Metropolitan Area	April 2016*	April 2015**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	94,300	96,900	-2,600
Carbondale-Marion MSA	58,000	59,000	-1,000
Champaign-Urbana MSA	111,700	110,800	900
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,677,800	3,622,800	55,000
Danville MSA	29,600	29,400	200
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	180,600	183,500	-2,900
Decatur MSA	50,700	51,200	-500
Elgin Metro Division	258,100	254,900	3,200
Kankakee MSA	44,800	44,900	-100
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	411,700	399,500	12,200
Peoria MSA	177,300	178,500	-1,200
Rockford MSA	154,000	150,700	3,300
Springfield MSA	114,400	112,700	1,700
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	237,600	236,100	1,500
Illinois Statewide	5,992,200	5,935,400	56,800

\*Preliminary \*\*Revised

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**Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates  
(percent) for Local Counties and Areas**

	<b>Apr. 2016</b>	<b>Apr. 2015</b>	<b>Over- the-Year Change</b>
<b>Bloomington MSA</b>			
DeWitt County	6.1%	4.6%	1.5
McLean County	5.4%	3.9%	1.5
<b>Peoria MSA</b>			
Marshall County	7.2%	5.5%	1.7
Peoria County	7.4%	5.8%	1.6
Stark County	8.1%	5.3%	2.8
Tazewell County	6.7%	5.1%	1.6
Woodford County	5.7%	4.1%	1.6
<b>Ottawa-Streator Area</b>	8.1%	7.0%	1.1
Bureau County	6.4%	5.3%	1.1
LaSalle County	7.2%	6.0%	1.2
Putnam County	5.8%	5.5%	0.3
<b>Galesburg Area</b>	6.5%	5.3%	1.2
Knox County	6.5%	5.3%	1.2
Warren County	5.6%	4.3%	1.3
<b>Cities</b>			
Bloomington City	5.5%	4.1%	1.4
Galesburg City	6.9%	5.4%	1.5
Normal City	5.3%	3.7%	1.6
Pekin City	7.7%	5.8%	1.9
Peoria City	7.5%	5.9%	1.6
<b>Counties</b>			
Fulton County	7.8%	6.2%	1.6
Henderson County	6.4%	4.3%	2.1
Henry County	6.5%	5.3%	1.2
Livingston County	5.6%	4.3%	1.3
Logan County	5.5%	4.6%	0.9
Mason County	7.0%	5.7%	1.3

**Pontiac Area:** The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 5.6 percent in April 2016 from 4.3 percent in April 2015. Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment increased by (+150). Manufacturing (+150), Government (+100), and Financial Activities (+50) increased while Construction (-50) reported the largest loss. All other sectors were stable compared to a year ago.

**Note:**

Monthly 2015 unemployment rates and total non-farm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February and March 2016, as required by the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Comments and tables distributed for prior metro area news releases should be discarded as any records or historical analysis previously cited may no longer be valid.

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## Central Illinois Highlights

### Help Wanted

Area employers advertised for 9,500 positions in April and approximately 86 percent sought full-time employment, according to Help Wanted OnLine data compiled by the Conference Board, which is a global, independent business membership and research association. Employers actually need more workers than the help wanted advertising indicates because some industries, such as Construction, typically do not post advertised job openings.

**Bloomington MSA:** The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 5.4 percent in April 2016 from 3.9 percent in April 2015. There were an estimated 5,300 unemployed people in the labor force in April 2016.

Over the year, nonfarm payroll employment declined by (-2,600). Job gains were reported in Educational and Health Services (+300), Leisure and Hospitality (+200), and Other Services (+100). Declines were reported in Construction (-1,100), Manufacturing (-900), Professional and Business Services (-400), Retail Trade (-300), Government (-300), Financial Activities (-100), and Wholesale Trade (-100). All other major industry sectors were little changed compared to a year ago.

**Peoria MSA:** The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 6.9 percent in April 2016 from 5.3 percent in April 2015. There were an estimated 12,800 unemployed people in the labor force in April.

Nonfarm payroll employment declined by (-1,200) compared to April 2015. Job gains were reported in Retail Trade (+1,000), Leisure and Hospitality (+1,000), and Wholesale Trade (+100). Declines were reported in Manufacturing (-1,600), Professional and Business Services (-700), Construction (-500), Government (-300), Other Services (-100), and Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities (-100).

**Ottawa-Streator Area:** The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 7.0 percent in April 2016 from 5.8 percent in April 2015. Nonfarm payrolls increased (+100) from a year ago. The largest gains occurred in Construction (+100), Other Services (+50), Information (+50), and Trade, Transportation and Utilities (+50). Educational and Health Services (-100) had the largest decline over the year.

**Galesburg Area:** The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 6.5 percent in April 2016 from 5.3 percent in April 2015. Nonfarm payroll employment was (+325) higher than last year. Leisure and Hospitality (+100), Government (+100), Manufacturing (+75), and Other Services (+50), added jobs. Losses were limited to Professional and Business Services (-75) and Information (-25).